1986
Western Tidewater Living

Synthesizing death

Fully recycled, Monroe spends the afternoon giving a tour of the institute buildings, checking again on the mountaintop construction and explaining why he believes mankind is reaching what he calls "critical mass" in terms of the pressures on our collective consciousnesses. The threat of nuclear war, environmental holocausts and the latest specter of terrorism, says Monroe, are actually pushing people toward the same kinds of discoveries he has been making in his laboratory for years.

"As anxiety levels rise worldwide," he explains, "as the rules and the game change, consciousness evolves to deal with all this.

"The consciousness that can cope," he goes on, "is the developing consciousness. If man does not learn and pass this test and move to a more mature consciousness, entropy will set in and man will no longer be the dominant species on this planet."

Which, notes Monroe, would be no great disaster.

"The future of man on earth," he says, "is an interesting, but relative term. If this compressed learning school that is human existence on Earth goes down the tubes, there are others."

Man, however, will not go the way of the dinosaur, says Monroe. And he speaks from more than faith. He says he has seen the future, he has been there, although he will only describe it in sketchy terms.

Nuclear war, for example, will not occur, says Monroe, at least not on a global scale: "There will be contamination, but not from bombs nuking all over the place. The contamination will be astronomical."

People will be able to control their bodies, says Monroe, to the point where a handful of rice will provide sufficient calories for an entire day. In time, a kernel will suffice. Then, no food at all will be needed: "It's just a matter of stages."

Communication, he says, will be nonverbal, requiring neither voices nor ears: "Mind to mind connection in its purest sense."

The aim of all this development, says Monroe, and the object of his work at the moment, is erasing the fear of death.